

America's

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American "Art" - According to USIA

It looks as if the old Greek proverb, "Whom the Gods would destroy, they first make mad," has to be changed. It ought to say "they first make stupid." At least, that is the only explanation I can find for several of the latest incidents involving our relations with the communists.

One of these incidents has to do with those big American and Russian exhibitions which will be held next month. Moscow is putting on a show here in New York. This will give the Reds a grand opportunity, of course, to

feed their propaganda to a lot of gullible Americans. Even better, from Russia's point of view, the Kremlin leaders can puff out their chests and tell their restless populations how the great, powerful United States let them put on their own show in America's largest city.

However, all this is supposed to be offset by the fact that we are putting on an American exhibition in Moscow. This is the show which Vice-President Nixon will open next month. The United States Information Agency has

shipped to Moscow 49 paintings by American artists. These are supposed to be representative of America and American art. But are they?

Chairman Francis Walter of the House Un-American Activities Committee, asked his staff to make a routine check of the artists represented in this collection. And guess what they turned up – in just a hurried, routine check? At least a third of the artists selected to represent American art and culture have blatant communist-front records! One of the paintings depicts a gum-chewing, stuffed-shirt-type American general. This is right down the Kremlin's propaganda alley – with the evidence supplied by an American artist

supposedly representative of America. The paintings of another of these pro-Red artists was described by a respected art publication. It said: "Their ugliness is appalling...a brutal, vulgar and unnecessary display of art license." Maybe the United States Information Agency should have just turned the whole job over to the Kremlin – and let *them* select the American art exhibits.

And by the way, it now turns out that one of the members of that Russian ballet troupe which has been tripping the light fantastic around the United States, is a top-flight Soviet secret police official. Our stupidity seems to know no bounds.

Propaganda, Gomulka, and Uncle Sap

I would like to add one comment about the relative propaganda value of these two big exhibitions. The communist exhibition will be staged in New York, which is only one spot in the United States. The American exhibition will be held in Moscow, which is also only one spot in the vast Soviet Union. But consider this. We have, in the United States, somewhere in

the neighborhood of 1700 or 1800 daily newspapers. Fortunately, they are free to print pretty much anything they wish. And they have plenty of space in which to print it – some of the papers in the larger cities run to as many as 25 or 30 pages or more. Of course most of these papers will print plenty of news and feature stories about Red Russia's big exhibition in New York, so that

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all the details of Red industrial, military and cultural advances will reach every American who reads a newspaper. Or rather, I should say that they will reach us in the way the Russians want them presented, because of course they will put forth their exhibits in the most boastful manner possible.

But will the masses of the Russian people outside Moscow get the same details about American industrial and military progress from our exhibition? Well, there is only a handful of Russian newspapers. They are all under complete government control. They run usually to only four or six pages each. And they print only what the government

tells them to print. So you can imagine how much unbiased news about the American exhibits will reach the people of Russia. But I have no doubt they will surely be told about what a terrible place America is, as depicted by those pro-communist American painters.

Here is one more item along this same line. The United States - which means you, the American taxpayer - has given to Communist Poland more than 200 million dollars in foreign giveaways. This is just another example of the stupid way in which we fight the Red menace. Last Fall, the Red dictator of Poland - after collecting 200 million dollars from American taxpayers - went to Moscow and made a speech. He called Americans every bad name he could think of. Then, to make sure there was no mistake about how he felt about us, he went back to Poland and repeated the same blasts against America. Now this made the giveaways boys in Washington feel very badly. They decided that Gomulka, the Polish Red boss, ought to be punished. They had given him 100 million dollars - of your money - for each of the last two years. And by way of thanks, Gomulka had

practically spit in our faces. So this year, the Washington giveaway boys are going to insult him right back. They are going to give him only 50 million dollars

of your money! As the New York *Daily News* remarked, no wonder Uncle Sam is so often called Uncle Sap.

Fund for Republic Is In Again

Here on the home front, the Red sappers and their dupes are doing very nicely — without working too hard. They sit back and let big-money outfits like the Ford Fund for the Republic do their job — the job of undermining American institutions. The Fund for the Republic, you may remember, is the outfit which, with 15 million dollars of old Henry Ford's money, has been busy whitewashing government security risks, giving awards to pro-communist librarians, and blasting congressional investigations of subversion.

Now the Fund for the Republic is in again — this time with a proposal from one of its subsidized college professors. A Princeton pundit has made a report for the Fund for the Republic in which he bemoans what he calls the "traditional disorder" of American political institutions. This so-called "disorder" comes about because our presidents are limited in their terms of office, and because often the President

and a majority of Congress represent two different parties. This was all right once upon a time. But now, according to the Fund for the Republic and its Princeton professor, it keeps the national government from being strong enough. It must be stronger because government has gotten so big, and international and domestic crises have become so frequent.

What's the answer? You can depend on the Fund for the Republic and its professor coming up with one. Here it is. There should be no limit on the number of terms a president can stay in office. And all the members of the House and half the senators should be elected at the same time that the President is. This would do away with our chance, at the ballot box, to let our representatives know how we feel every two years. And it would practically insure that the President would have a compliant Congress to do his bidding.

It never seems to occur to the

Fund for the Republic that we would not need this so-called "strong" government if we cut big government down to size – and quit entangling ourselves in every dogfight in the world. Nor does it occur to the Fund and its professor that a system such as this would wreck the American Republic. It would return us to the authoritarian rule from which

our ancestors fought and bled to free us. It was systems like this in Europe from which many of our parents and grandparents fled to the free air of America. I suggest the Fund for the Republic should change its name. It ought to be called the Fund for the Destruction of the Republic.

– John T. Flynn

Foregoing items covered in Mutual network broadcast 6/21/59

BOOK REVIEW

A Large Order, Remarkably Filled

THE NAKED COMMUNIST by W. Cleon Skousen, 343 pages, Ensign Publ. Co., Salt Lake City, \$6.00.

This is a truly remarkable book. In the brief compass of little more than 300 pages, it gives the essence of the history of communism, the rise of Russia to a world communist power, the inroads of communism in the United States – and in addition, answers fully five vital questions. They are: What the defenders of communism say; how to build a free nation; what free-enterprise capitalism is; did the early Christians practice communism; the secret weapon of

communism. A large order? Indeed it is. All the more surprising that the order is filled with dispatch and absorbing interest.

No doubt the remarkable nature of the book stems from the no less remarkable career of the author. Mr. Skousen spent 16 years with the FBI. From 1951 to 1956 he was on the faculty of Brigham Young University. He is now Chief of Police of Salt Lake City. He is also the father of eight children.

The book is printed in large, clear type. It is beautifully arranged in short chapters and sections, each chapter beginning with a brief summary of the ma-

terial it will cover, and a list of questions it will answer. And the volume is excellently illustrated with photographs, maps and drawings.

We mention these matters because we should like to see this book made required reading for every high-school student. In fact, it makes the perfect text from which both teacher and student can glean the essential facts about the present struggle between two diametrically opposed systems. And there would be no lag in interest on the part even of a half-way alert student.

Mr. Skousen pulls no punches. Clearly, simply, without rancor, in words anybody can understand, he names names, dates, places.

We can think of no greater service Americans could perform for themselves, their children and their country than to see that at least one copy of this book is in their local high-school library. Failing that, keep a copy around the house — where your high-school and college offspring can get at it, if they can pry it loose from mother and dad.

— *Rosalie Gordon*

Neither Dollars Nor Deprivation

"Most people share to the fullest the concern of welfare officials who dedicate themselves to the welfare of children...But one may wonder whether, in their desire to help children, (they) do not sometimes oversimplify the case. Children denied the advantages of other children, one said, are 'second-class citizens.'

"We don't think that is necessarily the case at all. Nor do we agree with a Welfare Commissioner who said, 'It is a short step from a deprived child to a depraved child.' It is true that in some cases a child who does not

possess what another child possesses will become resentful and may end up lawless and depraved. But when that happens it happens in spite of a great many other facts that guide a youngster's life...

"The sons and daughters of the prosperous no more have a corner on character than the sons and daughters of the poor have a corner on crime because they lack advantages. Indeed, our history and our times are full of examples of men and women who made their way in the world in spite of early hardships. One of them

who taught himself his numbers with charcoal by firelight on a shovel's back took no short step to delinquency. Lincoln's early deprivation may have spurred him to the steps he did take that led him to be reckoned as among our very greatest Americans.

"Neither dollars nor deprivation is the mold in which character is formed. What matters is whether a child learns honesty and sincerity and self-reliance, and moral principles like these

are not paid in interest in a bank account. But they must be learned. And they will not be learned by children who are told that a lack of advantages will probably result in lack of character. If the nation ever comes to believe that...we will have created a nation of citizens without morality, without character, without self-reliance and a heritage without much hope."

— *From an editorial in the Wall Street Journal*

Let Competition Alone

"There is nothing wrong with competition that competition cannot cure. The faults of competition are in the impediments that are put in its way by force — the restraints, taxes, and regulations that handicap some competitors and give others a monopoly or quasi-monopoly position. Competition serves Society best when it is free."

— *Frank Chodorov in THE RISE AND FALL OF SOCIETY*

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